



PATENT SPECIFICATION

690,863

Date of filing Complete Specification : Jan. 12, 1950.

Application Date : Sept. 2, 1949. No. 22747/49.

Complete Specification Published : April 29, 1953.

Index at Acceptance :—Classes 70, E13 ; and 87(i), B2(b : d3 : f1), B2g(1 : 3), B2h1b.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements relating to Tiles of India-Rubber or Rubber Composition.

I, PERCY OAKLEY, a British Subject, of Driffold Lodge, Driffold, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

- This invention has reference to tiles of
10 india-rubber or rubber composition for use
as a covering for floors, stairs or walls.
With particular reference to the use of
such tiles for covering surfaces made wholly
or mainly of concrete or cement, it is found
15 that due to variations in atmospheric tempera-
ture or to periods of excessive humidity
or to the sweating of concrete or like, there
is a tendency for the india-rubber material
to buckle and/or rise in spite of the fact
20 that an adhesive fixing was used. Under
these conditions the rubber tends to become
tacky, gives off an offensive odour and rot
sets in as happens when dry rot occurs in
wood.
- 25 The object of the present invention is to
effect improvements in india-rubber tiles in
which this disadvantage is avoided or sub-
stantially reduced.

According to the present invention, a
30 rectangular, flexible, india-rubber or rubber
composition tile having a plain upper surface
is provided with several longitudinal
ventilating channels extending in a common
plane on the lower surface of said tile, a pair
35 of hooks extending along a pair of parallel
edges, the one hook being reversed relatively
to the other hook and a tongue and a
groove respectively on the remaining sides
of the tile, whereby a layout formed by
40 arranging the underside of several identical
tiles directly on a flat surface with their
hooks and tongues and grooves respectively
interengaged and interfitted with those of
adjoining tiles enables the underside of the

tiles layout to be ventilated by continuous
air ducts extending in one direction from
one end to the other end of the layout. 45

Such india-rubber tiles can be produced
in various patterns and designs.

In the accompanying drawings, typical
examples of a tile and tile assemblies
according to the invention are illustrated. 50

Fig. 1 is a perspective plan view of a tile
as seen from one of its sides.

Fig. 2 is a perspective underside view of 55
the tile as seen from another side.

Figs. 3 and 4 are end views of the tile.

Fig. 5 shows in plan how tiles are inter-
locked and interengaged on assembly. 60

Referring to Figs. 1—5, a square tile of
moulded india-rubber or rubber composition
has a plain or patterned surface 1 and an
underside formed with channels 2 extending
in a common plane. Along one pair of
sides, the tile has oppositely directed hooks
3, in that the one hook is presented up-
wardly and the other faces downwardly. 65

On the remaining sides, the tile has a
tongue 4 and a groove 5 respectively. 70
Tiles possessing these common features are
adapted to be assembled into a covering
when the hooks 3 on adjoining tiles are
interlocked and the tongues 4 and grooves
5 interengaged with flush joints. The
channels 2 are arranged in a common
plane and a determined order on the under-
side of the tiles so that upon assembly the
channels 2 combine to form continuous
ducts for ventilating, via extréme ends of
the assembly, the surface on which the tiles
are laid. 75

The commencement of a tile assembly is
illustrated by Fig. 5 in which the central tile
has its hooks 3 interlocked with the hooks
of identical tiles arranged on each side of
it and a tongue 4 and a groove 5 of this
central tile interengaged with corresponding
parts of upper and lower adjoining identi-
tical tiles. 80

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The flexibility of the tiles makes for convenience in bringing the hooks 3 into engagement. It will be evident that instead of providing a single tongue 4 and a single groove 5 two or more of such interfitting parts may be provided.

What I claim is:—

1. A rectangular, flexible, india-rubber or rubber composition tile having a plain upper surface and several longitudinal channels extending in a common plane on the lower surface of said tile, a pair of hooks, extending along a pair of parallel edges, the one hook being reversed relatively to the other hook and a tongue and a groove respectively on the remaining sides of the tile, whereby a layout formed by arranging the underside of several indentical tiles directly on a flat surface with their hooks and tongues and grooves respectively inter-

engaged and interfitted with those of adjoining tiles enables the underside of the tiled layout to be ventilated by continuous air ducts extending in one direction from one end to the other end of the layout.

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2. India-rubber tiles substantially as described in the Specification and shown on the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 5th day of January, 1949.

For the Applicant,
GEORGE FUERY & CO.,
Chartered Patent Agents,
Newhall Chambers, 8 Newhall Street,
Birmingham 3.

"Reference has been directed in pursuance of Section 9, subsection (1) of the Patents Act, 1949 to Patent No. 647,812."

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements relating to Tiles of India-Rubber or Rubber Composition.

I, PERCY OAKLEY, a British Subject, of Driffield Lodge, Driffield, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention has reference to tiles of india-rubber or rubber composition for use as a floor, stairs or wall covering.

With particular reference to the use of such tiles for covering surfaces made wholly or mainly of concrete or cement, it is found that due to variations in atmospheric temperature or to periods of excessive humidity or to the sweating of concrete or like, there is a tendency for the tiles to buckle and/or rise in spite of the fact that an adhesive fixing was used. Under these conditions, on account of no current of air to take up the moisture, the covering material does rot and cause a smell similar to dry rot in wood.

The object of the present invention is to effect improvements in tiles made of india-rubber or rubber composition in which this disadvantage is avoided or minimised.

According to the present invention, india-rubber or like tiles are provided on the underside with channels extending in a common plane thus to provide when the tiles are laid upon a surface, ducts by which the surface can be ventilated.

In connection with the provision of rectangular tiles for use in surfacing a concrete floor, one pair of opposite marginal edges are provided with reversely arranged grooves adapted to form interengaging hooks by which adjoining tiles laid in parallel planes may be connected, the other opposite edges having a longitudinally extending tongue or tongues and a groove or grooves respectively whereby tiles laid end to end in the same plane can have a plug and socket engagement.

The underside of these tiles are formed with several grooves, arches or tunnels, so that when several tiles are assembled and interengaged as a floor covering, these grooves or the like combine to form continuous air ducts by which the surface can be ventilated in a very simple and effective manner.

Such india-rubber tiles can be produced in various patterns and designs.

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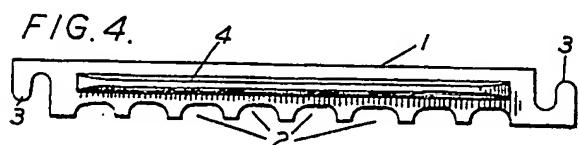
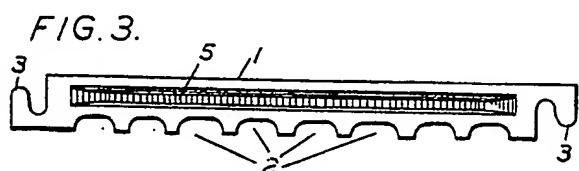
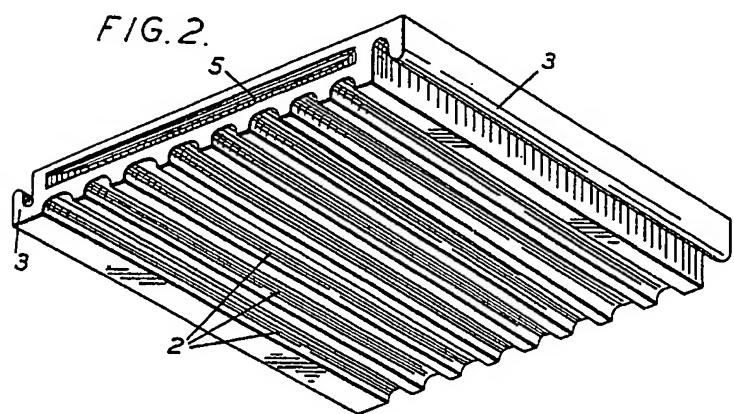
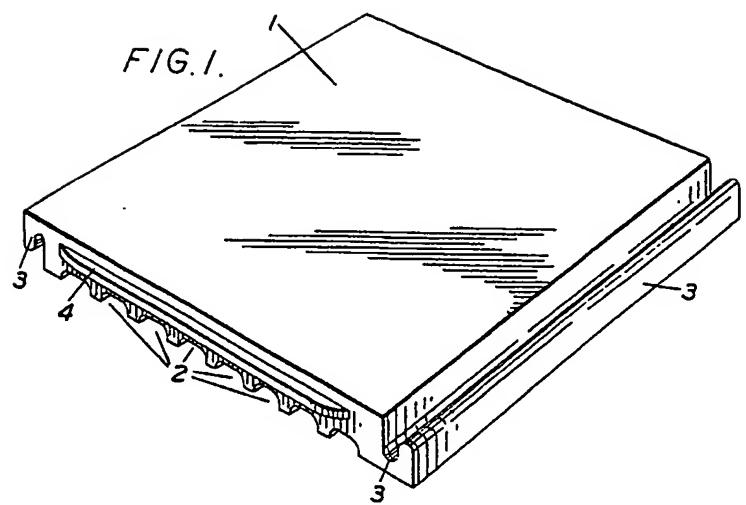
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Dated this 25th day of August, 1949.

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Abingdon : Printed for Her Majesty's Stationery Office, by Burgess & Son (Abingdon), Ltd.—1953.
Published at The Patent Office, 25, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2,
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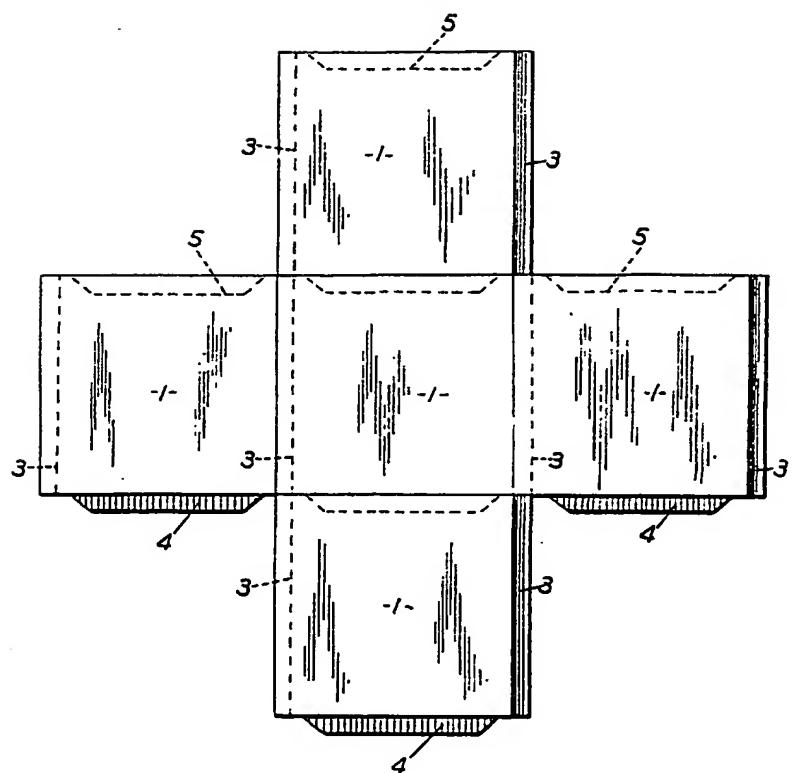
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2 SHEETS

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the Original on a reduced scale.*

SHEETS 1 & 2

FIG. 5.



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the Original on a Reduced Scale.
SHEETS 1 & 2

